

Message Text

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17

ACTION EUR-12

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R 180900Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
TO USDOC WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 847
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

UNCLAS PRAGUE 2369

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, CZ
SUBJECT: TSS: AIR AND WATER POLLUTION CONTROL EQUIPMENT

REF: (A) USDOC 13604, (B) PRAGUE 2251

1. EMBASSY OFFICERS CALLED ON FEDERAL MINISTRY OF INVESTMENTS AND TECHNOLOGY (FMTIR) AUG. 16 TO GET BETTER READING OF CZECHOSLOVAK INTEREST IN PROPOSED AIR AND WATER POLLUTION CONTROL EQUIPMENT TECHNICAL SALES SEMINAR. MINISTRY OFFICIALS WERE GENERALLY RECEPTIVE AND EXPRESSED SPECIFIC INTEREST IN THREE MAJOR AREAS:

- A. MONITORING EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUES FOR USE IN WATER AND AIR;
- B. EQUIPMENT FOR PURIFYING WATER AND AIR; AND
- C. CONTROL EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT EQUIPMENT FOR USE IN WATER AND AIR.

THEY WERE ALSO INTERESTED IN "NO WASTE PRODUCTION" TECHNIQUES. OFFICIALS STRESSED, HOWEVER, THAT CZECHOSLOVAKIA HAS CONSIDERABLE TECHNOLOGY IN ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD ALREADY AND IS NOT INTERESTED IN "OLD" IDEAS OR EQUIPMENT WHICH MIGHT BE NEWS ELSEWHERE IN EAST EUROPE BUT NOT HERE.

2. FMTIR OFFICIALS WILL SURVEY ALL INTERESTED PARTIES IN CZECHOSLOVAK GOVERNMENT AND ACADEMIC COMMUNITY AND PROMISED TO PASS US SPECIFIC LIST
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OF SUBJECTS OF INTEREST BY END OCTOBER. BOTH FMTIR

OFFICIALS AND EMBASSY STRONGLY PREFER OCTOBER VICE
SEPTEMBER, 1977, TIMING FOR THIS TSS
BECAUSE OF BRNO FAIR AND OTHER CONFLICTS. SEPTEMBER
TIMING WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY DETRACT FROM CZECHO-
SLOVAK INTEREST IN SEMINAR.

3. HUDEC, CHIEF OF FMTIR'S ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION
SECTION, RAISED INTERESTING POSSIBILITY OF
ENVIRONMENTAL EXPERTS FROM OTHER COMMUNIST STATES
BEING INVITED TO PRAGUE FOR TSS. EMBOFF EXPLAINED
THAT SEMINAR WILL VISIT TWO OTHER COUNTRIES BUT
THAT WE WOULD PROBABLY WELCOME ATTENDANCE OF THIRD
COUNTRY OFFICIALS IF THEY ARE WILLING TO COME AT
THEIR OWN EXPENSE. COMMENT: HUDEC WILL PROBABLY
DROP THIS IDEA, BUT EMBASSY WOULD LIKE TO KNOW
COMMERCE'S REACTION IF HE SHOULD RAISE IT AGAIN.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: PLS ADVISE WHETHER SEMINAR
CAN BE HELD IN OCTOBER, 1977, IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA
AND WHETHER COMMERCE HAS ANY OBJECTIONS TO
CZECHOSLOVAKS INVITING OFFICIALS FROM OTHER EE
COUNTRIES TO ATTEND.
FROWICK

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